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PATENTS



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re application of:

Woodson C. Lewis

Group No.: 2166

Serial No.: 09/527,927

Examiner: Parisi

Filed: March 17, 2000

For: ELECTRONIC TICKETING  
AND VALIDATION  
SYSTEM AND METHOD

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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*CERTIFICATE OF MAILING*

*I hereby certify that this Response To Office Action, along with any document indicated as being enclosed, is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 30, 2001*



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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This is a response to the Office Action dated April 10, 2001. This application has been made SPECIAL by the decision dated December 6, 2000.

Enclosed is a document entitled "Declaration Of Prior Invention In The United States To Overcome Cited Prior Publication (37 C.F.R. 1.131) ("the Declaration"). The Declaration has attached thereto Exhibits A and B.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C §102(a) as being anticipated by Ticketmaster.com as described in an article entitled "Site to Let Buyers Print Tickets at Home", ("the article"). As the enclosed Declaration indicates, Applicant completed the invention prior to the publication of this article and there was diligence of the applicant from the time of conception, to a time just prior to the date of the article, up to the filing of this application. In view of this, it is believed that the §102(a) rejection is improper and the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5, and 6 under §102(a) should be withdrawn.

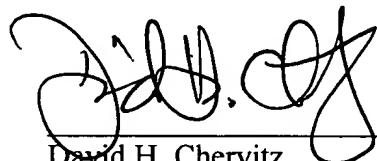
The remainder of the claims has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) in view of the article in combination with various other references. In view of the enclosed Declaration, it is believed that the rejection of the claims under §103(a) is improper and should now be withdrawn.

With regard to the Examiner's objection under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(4), Applicant submits that the reference characters "22" and "40" are proper. A review of the specification, particularly at page 7, lines 12-13, indicates that the ticket 40 is similar to the ticket 22. In view of this, it is believed that the reference characters "22" and "40" are not being used to designate the same admission ticket. The objection to the drawings should now be withdrawn.

In view of the enclosed Declaration and the above remarks, it is now believed that all of the claims pending in this application are allowable. In the event that this application is for any reason not considered by the Examiner to be in form for allowance, Applicant's counsel requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned before issuing a

further action to discuss any objections the Examiner might have, thereby simplifying and expediting the examination and prosecution process.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures